

REMARKS

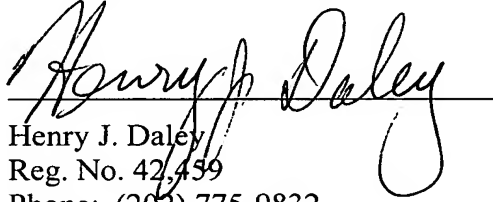
By this Preliminary Amendment, claims 27-39 are pending in this divisional application. Claims 1-26 and 40-48 have been canceled. Page 1 of the specification has been amended to add the reference to the parent application as the first paragraph.

Applicant amended the claims to ensure that none are interpreted as reciting any "step-plus-function" limitation so that they will not be limited to only the embodiments described in the specification and equivalents thereof. No new matter has been added.

An early and favorable examination on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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